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30 January 2009

Mrs S Mackay
Mr R Souter
Headteachers
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Dear Mrs Mackay and Mr Souter

Ofsted Thematic Survey Programme 2008-09

Social Responsibility and Community Cohesion

Thank you for your hospitality and co-operation during my recent visit. I am particularly grateful to you and all your staff for the hard work involved in preparing for the visit and for giving up your time during the visit to meet me. Please pass on our thanks to all those concerned, including your pupils.

The visit provided much useful evidence for the further development of community cohesion. I noted, in particular:

- Pupils are confident, articulate and enthusiastic about their learning. They work well together, support each other and welcome new arrivals warmly. They have positive attitudes to different languages and cultures. They are clear about their own identity and very proud of their school. They are keen to participate, contribute and take responsibility.
- The schools have a rich curriculum. It gives pupils an understanding of their own local environment and community, as well as opportunities to explore similarities and differences. The international dimension is embedded in the curriculum of these multi-ethnic, multi-lingual schools.
- Collaborative working by the headteachers of the infant and junior school demonstrates effective community cohesion. Staff and the wider community of parents and families contribute well to school developments.
- Future areas of development include shaping the governing body to reflect more fully school communities; and monitoring and sharing more widely the many areas of good curriculum practice, e.g. in EAL and outdoor work.

The published survey report will list the names of the contributing institutions in an appendix. Should we wish to cite specific aspects of the good practice observed on this visit in the form of a detailed case study, we will contact you first. We will notify you of the date of publication of the survey report when it is confirmed and provide you with details of any other arrangements to disseminate the survey's findings.

Yours sincerely

Anne Feltham
Her Majesty's Inspector